



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/940,730	08/28/2001	Alexander Thomas Ashcroft	C7564(V)	5138
201	7590	03/26/2004	EXAMINER	
UNILEVER PATENT DEPARTMENT 45 RIVER ROAD EDGEWATER, NJ 07020			MARKOFF, ALEXANDER	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1746	
DATE MAILED: 03/26/2004				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/940,730

Applicant(s)

ASHCROFT ET AL.

Examiner

Alexander Markoff

Art Unit

1746

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
 - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 December 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,33-36,41,42 and 45-57 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,33-36,41,42 and 45-57 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. It is noted that the applicants have filed a new set of claims wherein claim 42 depends from claim 1 and is listed as an original claim. It is noted that the original claim 42 depended from claim 41. It is believed that reference to claim 1 is due to the obvious mistake and that the composition claim 42 has to depend on a composition claim not a method claim 1. For examination purposes claim 42 is interpreted as dependent from claim 41, however, clarification and/or amendment are requested.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Art Unit: 1746

4. The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

5. Claims 1, 2, 45-48 and 51-54 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sliva (US Patent No 6,228,821).

Sliva teaches a composition and the method of the use of the composition. The composition comprises all ingredients required by the claims in the claimed ranges. See entire document, especially, columns 2, 7-9, 11 and 15.

Sliva also teaches a method of the use of the composition.

As to claims 1, 2 and 51-54:

Sliva does not specifically teach then sequence of the claimed steps. However, he teaches application of the disclosed composition for cleaning, laundry, etc.

It would have been obvious to an ordinary artisan at the time the invention was made that surfaces, fabrics, etc. are repeatedly cleaned, and accordingly, it would have been obvious to an ordinary artisan that such repeated application of the composition of Sliva would provide the claimed sequence.

As to claims 45-48:

First, It is noted that the claims as written are limited only to the dispensers, which are capable of containing the claimed liquid. It is further noted that the applicants

Art Unit: 1746

in their remarks stated that the claimed dispensers are conventional and not inventive. It is noted that the claims as written are limited only to the dispensers, which are capable of containing the claimed liquid. For examination purposes the claims are interpreted as limited to the dispenser and the liquid in combination. However, if the applicants are not claiming the combination of the dispenser and the liquid the claims should be considered as anticipated by the conventional dispensers.

Second, Sliva does not specifically teach the composition in the container with a spray means. However, it is the examiner's position that the containers with spray triggers were notoriously well known for dispensing cleaners. It would have been obvious to an ordinary artisan at the time the invention was made to provide cleaning composition of Sliva in the containers, which are conventional with reasonable expectation of adequate results in order to provide the composition in the package, which is ready for use.

6. Claims 55 and 57 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sliva as applied above, and further in view of Policicchio et al (US Patent No 6,663,306).

Sliva as it has been shown above shows that the claimed invention was obvious except for the application of the composition as a wipe.

Policicchio et al teach that wipes were a conventional form of application of the cleaning composition.

It is also the examiner's position that wiping is the most common way for application cleaning compositions.

It would have been obvious to an ordinary artisan at the time the invention was made to provide the composition of Sliva in the form of wipe with reasonable expectation of adequate results in order to provide the composition in the package, which is ready for use and to apply the composition in the disclosed method with wipe.

7. Claims 33-36, 41-42 and 56 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sliva as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Stoddart (US Patent No 4,783,283).

Sliva does not specifically teach the claimed viscosity. However, he teaches different ingredients to influence viscosity.

Stoddart teaches that to provide stability to cleaning composition the viscosity should be at least 200mPaS. See at least column 6, lines 7-23.

It would have been obvious to an ordinary artisan at the time the invention was made to make the composition of Sliva with a viscosity disclosed by Stoddart in order to provide a stable composition.

Response to Arguments

8. Applicant's arguments with respect to amended claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

9. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP

Art Unit: 1746

§ 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alexander Markoff whose telephone number is 571-272-1304. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Randy P Gulakowski can be reached on 571-272-1302. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 1746

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Alexander Markoff
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1746

am

**ALEXANDER MARKOFF
PRIMARY EXAMINER**